

Suicide Prevention Month September 2007

WHEREAS, worldwide there are more deaths by suicide than by homicide and war combined; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, one person completes suicide every 16 minutes; 32,500 people die by suicide each year, and five million living Americans have made a suicide attempt; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 4.5 million people in the United States are survivors of suicide and have lost a loved on to suicide; and

WHEREAS, 52% of people who die by suicide use a firearm, and guns stored in the house are used for suicide 40 times more often than for self-protection; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the eleventh leading cause of all deaths in the United States; the third leading cause of death among people from the age of 10 to 24, and the second leading cause of death among people from the age of 25 to 34; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the second leading cause of all injury deaths in the State of California; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the second leading cause of all injury deaths in Santa Barbara County; and

WHEREAS, a great many suicides are preventable and can be reduced through awareness, education and treatment;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTY BLUM, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Santa Barbara do hereby proclaim September 2007 as **SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH** in support of the 13th Annual Suicide Prevention Forum presented by The Glendon Association, and encourage all citizens to join its life-sustaining efforts to provide hope and support to those in need.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Santa Barbara, California, to be affixed this 11th day of September, 2007.

Marty Blum, MAYOR